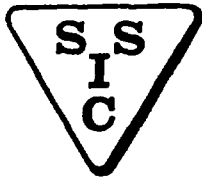


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SYSTEM SERVICES AND INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION

P. O. BOX 7147 - GARDEN CITY BRANCH
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31408
(912) 964-0711

10433

September 4, 1987

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

11.9

Ms. Kelly S. McCarty
Emergency Response and Control Section
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
345 Courtland St., NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30365

Re: Prairie Metals and Chemical Site, Prairie, Mississippi

Dear Ms. McCarty:

Concerning the letter from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency which we received in our office on August 27, 1987, we have made an effort to establish our role in the work that took place at the Prairie site.

In 1977, System Services and Industrial Corporation was hired and an effort was made to establish if it were feasible to take over the plant site and manufacture chrome for commercial sales. The facility had been operating for some years on a commercial basis by Prairie Metals and Chemical Company and an agreement was made with them to make a down payment on these facilities to determine through lab work and basically pilot plant operations if a process could be established. During a period of approximately 1½ years the majority of our effort was devoted to study and lab efforts. There was at one time one fulltime employee hired to help with the pilot plant work and one cell was used for manufacturing approximately four (4) weeks.

When we arrived at the plant site the ponds contained a considerable amount of crystallized chromium and it was evident there were serious pollution problems and as a matter of fact this played very heavily in the decision to not exercise the right to purchase this facility. When it was established there was no interest in pursuing this project further we made every effort to comply with a legitimate cleanup program and I am confident we left the site in much better condition than when we arrived. Mr. Paul Meyers from our office worked closely with Mr. Jerry Banks of the Department of Natural Resources in Jackson, MS, and followed his recommendations on the cleanup operation (see enclosed copies of letter from Paul E. Meyers, dated September 7, 1979, and letter from Mr. Banks dated October 2, 1979).

The point I wish to make is with the extremely limited production activities that were engaged in by this organization relative to the pollution that had taken place prior to our efforts at the site and considering the work that was done to clean the site when it was shut down we have more than completed our

(Continued)

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Ms. Kelly S. McCarty

Page -2-

September 4, 1987

obligations. If there is other information you would like from us, please let us hear from you.

Sincerely,

Walter L. New

Walter L. New

WLN/csb

Encs.